

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Notice of Public Meeting and Public Comment for
Total Maximum Daily Load Studies in the Tidewater Regional Area

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will host a public meeting on water quality studies for several water bodies that are impaired due to not meeting Dissolved Oxygen water quality standards.

The meeting will be held on **Monday February 22, 2010** and will start at **6:00 p.m.** at the **Virginia Department of Environmental Quality – Tidewater Regional Office** located at 5636 Southern Blvd, Virginia Beach. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information and discuss the studies with interested local community members and local government.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia, require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report and subsequent Water Quality Assessment Reports.

During the study, DEQ will develop a Total Maximum Daily Load for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, pollutant levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount. The waters listed below were identified in Virginia's 1998 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired for not supporting the Aquatic Life Use. The impairments are based on water quality monitoring data reports of sufficient exceedances of Virginia's water quality standard for dissolved oxygen.

Albemarle Canal	(VAT-K41R_AAC01A06)
North Landing River-middle	(VAT-K41R_NLR02A06)
West Neck Creek-middle	(VAT-K41R_WNC01A00)
Milldam Creek-lower	(VAT-K41R_MLD02A06)
Nawney Creek-upper	(VAT-K42E_NWN01A00)
Nawney Creek-lower	(VAT-K42E_NWN02A00)

Several impaired segments were identified as needing an assessment to determine if natural conditions are the cause of the low DO values. If it is determined that anthropogenic causes contribute to the impairments, a TMDL will be developed for each waterbody listed below:

Tarrara Creek	(VAT-K13R_TRR01A00)
Mill Swamp	(VAT-K34R_MSW01A00)

Rattlesnake Swamp	(VAT-K34R_RKN01A02)
Seacock Swamp-upper	(VAT-K35R_SCK01A00)
Blackwater River-middle K36	(VAT-K36R_BLW02A08)
Blackwater River-middle K36	(VAT-K36R_BLW03A08)
Blackwater River-lower middle K36	(VAT-K36R_BLW04A08)
Blackwater River-lower K36	(VAT-K36R_BLW05A08)
Blackwater River-mouth K36	(VAT-K36R_BLW06A08)
Blackwater River-upper K33	(VAT-K33R_BLW01A00)
Blackwater River-lower K33	(VAT-K33R_BLW02A04)
Blackwater River-lower K33	(VAT-K33R_BLW03A08)

The public comment period on materials presented at this meeting will extend from February 22, 2010 to March 24, 2010. For additional information or to submit comments, contact Jennifer Howell, in the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Tidewater Regional Office, 5636 Southern Blvd, Virginia Beach VA 23462, by phone (757) 518-2111 or by e-mail jshowell@deq.virginia.gov.

* Additional information is also available on the DEQ web site at www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl.